

A CLUMSY REPLY

WHETHER OR NOT the German reply suffers in translation, it is from every standpoint, from form and substance, a clumsy document. The form may perhaps be due to inferior translation; the defective substance must come from a German failure, or unwillingness to appreciate the force of the American note.

In its larger aspect the reply is conciliatory, represents a further effort, or assumed effort to meet Allied demands, but fails to do so in at least two material respects.

Paragraph 1 of the reply employs this language:

"In accepting the proposal for the evacuation of occupied territories the German government started from the assumption that the procedure for this evacuation and the conditions of the armistice should be left to the judgment of the military advisers and that the actual standard of power which both sides in the field have should form the basis of arrangements safeguarding and guaranteeing this standard."

The German government recedes from its position that the terms of evacuation should be arranged by a fixed commission, and accepts the proposition of President Wilson, that such terms would have to be arranged by the respective military advisers.

The further assumption, that the Allies contemplate an armistice by which the military status will exist during the period of rest, precisely as it stood at the beginning of the armistice, is entirely unwarranted.

There is certainly nothing in the American note which warrants a belief that Mr. Wilson intended, or intends, "that the actual standard of power which both sides in the field have, should form the basis of arrangements safeguarding and guaranteeing this standard."

This is a characteristically loose construction, in which the general phrase "standard of power" is employed, instead of such a phrase "standard of forces actually under arms," or other language that would have more definite and precise meaning.

If the language were "actual standard of power which both sides have in the field," it would approach clear definition, for the power of both sides "in the field," would be measured by the forces under arms, and actually employed.

The "power which both sides in the field have," could readily be construed as the total amount of power of all kinds, economic, industrial, military and naval; the sum of all species of power controlled by either side. So obscure a condition would surely open the way to indefinite discussion.

But the American policy of unconditional surrender, or its equivalent, does not take account of agreements by which there will be guaranteed to Germany any standard of power, either military or economic, which is to exist unimpaired during peace discussion, just as it stands at the opening of discussion.

The Allies, with their enormous resources, are not likely to remain stabilized, gaining nowhere, adding nowhere, while the enemy recuperates forces, to which nothing can be added but troops from Russia, if time is granted in which to find them.

Neither is the proposal to instruct submarines not to sink passenger ships, a meeting of the conditions of the American note, which peremptorily suggested the entire withdrawal of submarines from every sphere of operations against Allied ships.

The German denial of cruelties and atrocities is unimportant, except as it is equal to an agreement not to do the same things again.

Whether or not such changes in the form of German government exist, as will, in the minds of the president create a responsible government, with which the Allies can deal, only the president can know. Assuming that the German Chancellor speaks truly, very considerable changes in the German system have been made.

The note describes what may be a typical, parliamentary sort of European government, as in formation; but the language used is once more obscure, and affords no sure view of the actual situation.

The ordinary process of developing a responsible parliamentary government would be the election of representatives by equal, secret and direct franchise. From this representative body would proceed the great officers of the government, including the prime minister, premier, or chancellor. The government could exist only while it enjoyed the confidence of the parliament.

"A new government has been formed in accordance with the wishes of the representatives of the people, based upon equal, universal, secret and direct suffrage."

A parliamentary government of popular origin begins with the election of representatives, by the suffrages of the people. It does not begin with "the wishes" of the representatives of the people. It is one thing if the representatives are chosen by the people, by free ballot. It is quite another thing, to form a government, based on wishes of representatives.

The chancellor apparently continues to receive his authority from the monarch, and his responsibility to the government is merely contemplated. It needs something more than a pending bill to make the Kaiser's chief minister responsible to the people of Germany.

The German reply seems unlikely to make a favorable impression on the mind of the president, whose candor has been met with clumsy, equivocal, and false response.

THE BABY DOLL CASE

THE POLICE need not feel unduly humiliated by the verdict in the famous "Baby Doll" case. They are convicted of nothing worse than excess of zeal. In their attempt to put at end to a plague spot, which had been long tolerated by their superiors in the city government, they went further than the law demanded.

But the police proved themselves honest. The fervor with which they raided the Keystone club may have shown them indiscreet, but it also showed them honest. Their eagerness to end the notorious dive is evidence enough that they are not a part of that system by which many evil and notorious drinking clubs are sustained in Bridgeport.

Fortunately matters so arranged that the Republican authorities handled their own dirty linen. The raid was conducted by a Republican managed police force, the culprits were held by Republican petty court officials, and the trial was finally managed by the Republican prosecutor, directed by one of the leading Republican lawyers of Bridgeport.

No stigma rests upon the attorneys who tried the case. They made an excellent use of the materials at their disposal. The evidence was not sufficient to show that a bullet fired by either of the negroes did the killing. It even created a strong suspicion that the fatal bullet came from a revolver held by the police.

The case has served its purpose, in one respect. It has opened the eyes of respectable men to those alliances upon

which the present government in City Hall is so insecurely founded.

The acquittal of "Baby Doll" saves an innocent man from the penalties that attach to homicide, but it neither excuses nor explains how it happens that the notorious Keystone club could run month after month, while the police, vexed to the heart, were straining at the leash to terminate its evil existence. The police was indiscreet, but they were honest. The raid on the Keystone club proves.

MR. MERRITT'S RECORD

THE IMPORTANCE of the office he holds justifies a scrutiny of the record of Schuyler Merritt, of Stamford, representative in congress for the Fourth Connecticut District. Mr. Merritt took his seat in Congress after many of the original, and most vital, war measures had been enacted. He was sworn in Dec. 3, 1917.

Since that time he has registered votes against nation wide prohibition and against Womans Suffrage Amendment Resolution.

Mr. Merritt's record has been chiefly a non-voting record. He was not present and did not vote on the Railroad Control Bill, the Food Production Bill, the Daylight Saving Bill, and the Bill to Condemn Lands Needed for War Purposes, to name a few of the more important.

Mr. Merritt voted against the Farmers Seed Grain and Labor Bill, and likewise against the bill to prevent Profiteering in the District of Columbia.

The Republican caucus placed him on two minor committees, those on Claims and Territories.

His record is divided into two parts; bills he voted against and bills he stayed away from. The bill he avoided, it will be noted, are more numerous than those he faced with boldness.

BRIDGEPORT'S SHARE

BRIDGEPORT FEELS proud of its contribution to the Fourth Liberty Loan, and grateful to the industrious, patriotic and enthusiastic men and women who were leaders in the work.

Bridgeport's pride must chiefly be in the enormous number of individual contributions. Nowhere else was there such a universal outpouring of individual aid. Bridgeport's big givers were as liberal as the big givers of other communities, in proportion to their means, and Bridgeport's little purchasers were more liberal.

It was the purchaser of the \$50 and \$100 bond who made the loan a complete success, with enough to spare.

Bridgeport, as an eighth-hundredth part of continental United States, shares in the triumph of the nation, a triumph which teaches the Prussian that peace drives are a species of fertilizer upon which war loans thrive in America.

LONG HILL FLAG RAISING

LONG HILL may feel a just pride in its flag raising. It is seldom a community of no greater number is able to combine in so imposing a celebration. The parade of the children and the Red Cross women was a striking evidence of the patriotic fervor of the people.

Nor was the event without its element of drama. Among the speakers was Sergeant Barker, of Fairfield, a veteran of two wars. He aided in subduing the Filipino's, and fought in France.

His wound, by which his fighting days are terminated, was received just outside Chateau, at the instant when the tide of the war turned. It was America that changed the course of events; among the Americans most concerned was the 102nd Regiment, composed of Connecticut men, among them, Sergeant Barker.

In the soldier to address them, a man who played his part in the great action, the children had something to remember, thus the little people of Long Hill were enabled to visualize the triumph of Democracy.

PREPARING FOR FIFTH LIBERTY LOAN IN MARCH

Washington, Oct. 22—Long before the Fourth Liberty Loan figures have been counted up or the honor flag have been entirely distributed or the money paid in preparations have been started at the treasury for the Fifth Liberty Loan.

The date has not been determined nor the amount nor any other features. The only certain consideration is that there will be another and that it probably will come in the spring of 1919—in March or April. Whether present German maneuvers for peace will help or not, by that time will need more billions to pay war debts. Even if cessation of military effort should come.

Within a few months the treasury again will begin issuing new certificates of indebtedness as a means of financing itself, and by next spring the accumulated billions of these must be redeemed out of proceeds from sales of more bonds.

ASKS TOWN SUPPORT

Wilton, Oct. 22—Miss Sarah Davenport, known here as "chateaufort," still makes her home in the horse sheds at St. Matthew's church and defies all efforts to remove her. She refuses to occupy the cottage at Belden Hill provided by her brothers and sisters. She says that she prefers to be a "town pauper" rather than a family pauper.

Miss Davenport says that she has offered her services to the government to go to France or to some Southern camp and take care of stock, but has been refused. She has also offered her services to a munition factory. The town officials have not answered her application for support and probably will not subject the town to the expense of supporting her when she has relatives able and willing to provide for her.—Hartford Courant.

INFLUENZA DECLINES

Boston, Oct. 22—Evidence of further decline of influenza in this state was contained in reports to the state department of health today from 100 cities and towns, many of them covering a period of several days, which gave a total of 150 deaths and 2,456 new cases. The epidemic maintained as strong foothold only in the western part of the state.

NEW HAVEN PRO-GERMAN LAWYER CAUGHT IN TEXAS

New Haven, Conn., Oct. 22—Maximilian von Hoegen, a young lawyer in the city, whose pro-German utterances and professed friendship with former Ambassador von Bernstorff lured to a night call from citizens who roughly handled him and compelled him to kiss the American flag some months ago and who eluded secret service men has been caught at San Antonio, Texas, according to word received here today. Von Hoegen will be returned here but the charge to be brought against him in the United States court has not been disclosed. In filling out a questionnaire von Hoegen is said to have made insulting references to the United States and because of this he was sought. The young man's family reside here.

NEW RULINGS ON SHOES AND HATS

Washington, Oct. 22—Shoe manufacturers and houses selling directly to the consumer are required under a ruling today by the war industries board to sign retailers' pledges cards and abide by the recently established price and quality standardization program. At the same time the board ordered colors of children's shoes restricted to black, dark brown and white, and the elimination of perforations except on the tip.

Another order forbids importation of men's and boys' felt hats, which do not conform to the style, shape and color restrictions imposed upon domestic manufacturers.

Committee Takes Compromise Plan

Washington, Oct. 22—In revising the war excess profits tax feature of the House war revenue bill, the senate finance committee today struck out the alternative system of taxing war and excess profits and to raise somewhat less than the \$2,000,000,000 estimated from the House provisions.

Under the new provisions, based on an arbitrary mathematical formula, the general rate of 80 per cent. on war profits is retained, but the rates on excess profits reduced, a change which Secretary McAdoo has constantly urged.

CAPTAIN GRANT, FORMER GIANT, KILLED ABROAD

Harvard Eddie, First Big Leaguer to Make Supreme Sacrifice.

With the American Army North-west of Verdun, Oct. 22—(Associated Press)—Capt. Edward Grant, former third baseman of the New York National League club, and attached to the 307th Infantry, was killed by a shell while leading a unit to the aid of the famous "first battalion," which was surrounded for five days in the Argonne forest.

He is the first of the many major league baseball players in the service to give his life for his country. He was born in Franklin, Mass., in 1883. He first earned baseball honors while at Harvard University, where he was one of the best all-around players. After graduation he played with independent teams and later with the Jersey City club of the International League.

From 1907 to 1910 he played second base for the Philadelphia Nationals and the following year was traded to Cincinnati. In 1913 he was purchased by the New York Nationals and played third and shortstop for the Giants until 1915, when he resigned to enter business.

At the outbreak of the war he entered an officers' training camp, where he was graduated with high honors.

LIBERTY LOAN HERE AT LEAST \$12,000,000

That the sum of \$12,000,000 will be the total amount of the Liberty Loan subscriptions is the opinion of the committee, as the reports continue to be sent in. The banks are swamped with the data, and are making drastic efforts to get the results in some kind of shape. It will be several days before definite figures will be available.

Now that the Kaiser has been hung, the sign on the building at the corner of Main street and Fairfield avenue has been taken down, and Bridgeport is the proud possessor of honor flags for having exceeded its quota.

At a flag raising held at the plant of the Bridgeport Safety Emery Wheel company plant additional subscriptions were made for the amount of \$1,500. The previous total was \$5,500. The Safe Tire company reported that the corporation subscriptions for their different plants amounted to \$146,000, of which Bridgeport received \$78,000.

MUST FEED 2,300,000 MORE

U. S. Must Supply People in Reconquered Territory.

Washington, Oct. 22—Allied victories in France and Belgium are daily adding to the number of mouths that must be fed by the people of the United States, it was declared by the United States Food Administration yesterday.

The victories of the past week have added a French population of 1,500,000 and a Belgian population of 800,000, it is estimated, to the number this government recently estimates must be fed.

The situation will be somewhat relieved when the Allies get through to Ghent, for that will enable the distribution of immense stores of food at Rotterdam.

But the continuous gains of territory add increasing numbers to offset any advantage in facilities. For instance, it is estimated by the Food Administration that 9,750,000 persons will have to be fed when the Allies have pushed the Germans back to the Meuse.

Without these additions, the increase in the amount of food necessary for the United States to ship abroad is not less than 50 per cent. over last year's supply, or 17,500,000 tons as compared with 11,820,000 tons.

America has long been feeding part of Europe and the contrast is heightened when the Administration shows that for the past three years prior to America's entrance into the war this country shipped an average of only 5,530,000 tons of foodstuffs.

Announces Cure For Insanity

Trenton, N. J., Oct. 22—Cure of insanity by extracting diseased teeth, removing infected tonsils and clearing the gastro-intestinal tract was announced here today by Dr. Henry A. Cotton, medical director of the New Jersey state hospital in a report to the state department of charities and corrections.

The report gives the results of eleven years of experimentation on a number of deranged patients and states that recoveries are not only speedy under the new treatment, but that sanity has been restored to some who had been in the hospital for as long as nine years.

Causes of infected teeth were charged by Dr. Cotton to bad dental work, neglect and promiscuous kissing.

President Promotes Liggett and Bullard

Washington, Oct. 21—Major Generals Hunter Liggett and Robert K. Bullard were nominated by President Wilson today to be Lieutenant Generals.

\$3,379,699 FOR BELGIAN RELIEF

Washington, Oct. 22—The American Red Cross by the end of the year will have spent \$3,379,699 for relief of stricken Belgium, it was announced yesterday.

Eighty-two canteens providing refreshments for soldiers, nine hospitals, nurseries for 15,000 children and a home for disabled Belgian soldiers are some of the activities that have necessitated the spending of this sum.

THE GERMAN REPLY

LONDON, OCT. 21—The text of the German note as received by wireless is as follows:

Section One—"In accepting the proposal for an evacuation of occupied territories the German government has started from the assumption that the procedure of this evacuation and of this condition of an armistice should be left to the military advisers and that the actual standard of power on both sides in the field has to form the basis for arrangements safeguarding and guaranteeing this standard."

Section Two—"The German government suggests to the President that an opportunity should be brought about for fixing the details. It trusts that the President of the United States will approve of no demand which would be irreconcilable with the honor of the German people and with opening a way to a peace of justice."

Section Three—"The German government protests against the reproach of illegal and inhumane action made against the German land and sea forces and thereby against the German people. For the covering of a retreat destructions will always be and necessary as far as permitted by law."

"The German troops are under the most strict instructions to spare private property and to exercise care for the population to the best of their ability. Where transgressions occur in spite of these instructions the guilty are being punished."

Section Four—"The German government further denies that the German navy in sinking ships have ever purposely destroyed life boats with their passengers. The German government proposes with regard to those charges that the facts be cleared up by neutral commissions."

Section Five—"In order to avoid anything that might hamper the work of peace, the German government has caused orders to be dispatched to all submarine commanders precluding the torpedoing of passenger ships without however for technical reasons, being able to guarantee that these orders will reach every single submarine at sea before its return."

Section Six—"As a fundamental condition for peace the president prescribes the destruction of every arbitrary power that can separately, secretly, and of its own single choice disturb the peace of the world. To this the German government replies:

"Hitherto the representation of the people in the German Empire has not been endowed with an influence on the formation of the government."

Section Seven—"The constitution did not provide for a concurrence of representation of the people in decisions of peace and war. These conditions have just now undergone a fundamental change. A new government has been formed in complete accordance with the wishes (principles?) of the representation of the people based on equal, universal, secret, direct franchise."

Section Eight—"The leaders of the great parties of the Reichstag are members of this government. In the future no government can take or continue in office without possessing the confidence of a majority of the Reichstag."

Section Nine—"The responsibility of the chancellor of the Empire to the representation of the people is being legally developed and safeguarded. The first act of the new government has been to lay before the Reichstag a bill to alter the constitution of the Empire so that the consent of the representation of the people is required for decisions on war and peace."

Section Ten—"The permanence of the new system, is however, guaranteed not only by constitution safeguards, but also by the unshakeable determination of the German people whose vast majority stands behind these reforms and demand their energetic continuance."

Section Eleven—"The question of the president—with whom he and the government associated against Germany are dealing—is therefore answered in a clear, unequivocal manner by the statement that the offer of peace and an armistice has come from a government which is free from any arbitrary and irresponsible influence, is supported by the approval of an overwhelming majority of the German people."

"SOLE."

INTERNATIONAL EGG CONTEST

In the fifteenth week of the egg laying contest at Storrs two records which have been held during the preceding contests have been broken. In the first place the "Oregons" from the Oregon Agricultural College at Corvallis have now passed the yearly pen record of 2265 eggs held by Obed G. Knight's pen and have a total of 2278 eggs. Not only this, but the "Oregons" have two more weeks in which to increase this number. In the second place the 195 bird owned by Obed G. Knight of Bridgeton, R. I., has laid 297 eggs to date. This is 11 eggs more than any hen has ever produced in the past contests. At the rate that this bird is laying it seems that her egg production for the year should be considerably over 300 eggs.

The total production for the week was 1997 eggs or 28.5 per cent. Of this per cent. the heavy breeds laid 17.5 per cent., the light breeds laying only 11 per cent. Putting this in another way we might say that of the 1997 eggs, 61.4 per cent. of these were laid by the heavy breeds and 28.6 per cent. of them were laid by the light breeds.

Pen 3 entered by Richard Allen won the honors for the week with 51 eggs. Pen 53, the "Oregons," won second place with 45 eggs. Pen 81 owned by J. Frank Dubois was third with 41 eggs. Pen 29 owned by Obed G. Knight and pen 25 owned by Woodland Poultry Yards were tied for 4th place with a production of 36 eggs. During the fifth week of the contest 503 birds failed to produce an egg. Of the 1000 birds in the contest only five had perfect scores during the week.

NAVY CASUALTY.

Washington, Oct. 18—Casualties announced by the Navy Department include:

John J. Valentine, yeoman, New Britain, Conn., drowned in foreign service, Oct. 1.

APPROVE ST. PAUL POLICY. Washington, Oct. 22—The Federal Farm Loan Board will approve the St. Paul Federal Land Banks proposed policy of extending financial aid to farmers in the burned districts of northern Minnesota, it was stated officially today.

SUSPENDED DRAFT CALLS TO GO OUT IN CERTAIN ZONES

Washington, Oct. 22—Draft calls suspended three weeks ago because of the influenza epidemic, now are going out again in certain zones where the surgeon general's office has decided it is safe to send the men to cantonments. The localities and the exact number of men will not be announced for the present.

The October program is understood to provide for the induction of about 350,000 men, and the number not called out during the remaining days of the month will be added to succeeding monthly quotas, all being called as quickly as precautions for safety will permit. The largest single call suspended was for 140,000 men who were to have entrained Oct. 24.

W.H. PERRY MAKES GIFT TO YALE

New Haven, Conn., Oct. 22—Yale University has been given 1,500 acres of land in Weston and Redding by Winthrop H. Perry, class of 1876, of Southport, and Mrs. Perry, for the use perpetually by the Yale School of Forestry, according to a corporation announcement made today. Mr. Perry will also meet the cost of survey of the land and he will add a small sum towards the taxes. The land is to be kept for its natural attractions and wild character.

EXPULSED FROM COUNTRY FOR LIFE

Zurich, Switzerland, Oct. 21—British wireless—Lino Androl, a deserter from the Italian army, and Rodolfo Engelmab, a German consular agent, have been found guilty in the Swiss courts of having in their possession bombs, infernal machines and revolutionary pamphlets for use in Italy. Engelmab was sentenced to two and a half years' imprisonment, to pay a fine of 5,000 francs and expulsion from Switzerland for life. Androl got twenty months, twenty thousand francs fine and expulsion.